

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for providing recorded announcements on a communications network comprising:
 - at least one central terminal for routing communications on the communication network and in communication with the network; and
 - an announcement service node coupled to the central terminal further comprising a data schema and an application server for accessing the data schema,
 - wherein the application server is accessible by one or more central terminals coupled to the communications network and,
 - wherein said data schema comprises a storage mass for storing a plurality of recorded announcements.
2. A system according to claim 1, wherein said storage mass comprises a relational database.
3. A system according to claim 1, wherein at least a portion of said stored recording announcements are in the form of Lightweight Directory Access Protocol.
4. A system according to claim 1, further comprising an SS7 network, wherein at least one central terminal initiates queries to said announcement service node via the SS7 network.

5. A system according to claim 4, wherein said central terminal comprises a central office of a telephone service network.
6. A system according to claim 5, wherein said central office initiates queries to said announcement service node in X.25 protocol.
7. A system according to claim 1, comprising a plurality of central offices of a telephone service provider coupled to the service node of the telephone service provider.
8. An application server for accessing a database at a service node in a communications network comprising:
 - a plurality of central offices connected to the network;
 - means for accessing the database connected to said network for storing recorded announcements in response to queries from one or more of said plurality of central offices;
 - means for storing and dynamically maintaining the recorded announcements stored in the database; and
 - means for providing recorded announcements to at least one central office on the network.
9. A server according to claim 8, wherein said database comprises a relational database.

10. A server according to claim 8, wherein said database is in the form of Lightweight Directory Access Protocol.

11. A server according to claim 9, wherein said relational database is dynamically updateable by an external administrator.

12. A server according to claim 8, wherein said means for storing recorded announcements is updateable by an external administrator.

13. A server according to claim 8, comprising means for retrieving a caller's file based on a query from a central office of a telephone communication network.

14. A system for routing files of recorded announcements on a communications network, the system comprising:

 a switch circuit coupled to the communications network;
 at least one recorded announcement file coupled to the switch circuit via a trunk network;

 a service node for storing recorded announcements, said service node coupled to the switch circuit and accessible by a plurality of switch networks on the communications network;

a plurality of applications coupled to the service node for sending queries to the service node; and

routing means for providing recorded announcements to one or more users of the communications network in response to the queries from the applications.

15. A system according to claim 14, comprising:

at least one database containing a plurality of files related to users of said network, wherein the at least one database is coupled to the service node.

16. A system according to claim 14, wherein said communications network is an Intranet system.

17. A system according to claim 14, wherein said communications network is an Internet system.

18. A system according to claim 14, where said service node comprises means for translating protocol for recorded messages for a switch on the communications network.

19. A system according to claim 14, comprising means for matching a user's communication with a trigger on the communications network.

20. A system according to claim 19, comprising means for identifying a user's recorded

announcement file based at least in part on the matched user's communication.

21. A centralized recorded announcement system for providing recorded announcements to devices on a telephone service provider network, the system comprising:

means for triggering a request for a recorded announcement;

means for identifying a requested recorded announcement;

means for sending a recorded announcement request to a database;

means for updating said database based on current recorded announcements of said system; and

means for sending an identified recorded announcement from said database to a device of the telephone service provider network.

22. A centralized recorded announcement system according to claim 21, comprising means for identifying a user of said service provider upon triggering a request for a recorded announcement.

23. A centralized recorded announcement system according to claim 22, comprising means for retrieving a recorded announcement file from said database for at least one identified user.

24. A computer-readable medium storing a plurality of instructions adapted to be executed by a processor for providing recorded announcement files to one or more central offices of a communications network, the plurality of instructions comprising instructions to:

receive and translate a request from a trigger for a recorded announcement stored in a database;

generate an instruction, the instruction based at least in part on the request for a recorded announcement stored in the database;

send the instruction to an application programming interface, the instruction corresponding to one or more requests from the trigger for recorded announcements;

retrieve one or more recorded announcement files from a data base; and

send a recorded announcement file to a customer data device based on the request for the recorded announcements.

25. A method of providing recorded announcements to devices on a network for a telephone service provider comprising the steps of:

coupling a request for a recorded announcement from a device on the network of the telephone service provider to a centralized announcement service node;

providing at least one recorded announcement to a device on the service provider's network in response to the coupled request; and

retrieving, in response to a request for an announcement from a device, at least one

recorded announcement file from a centralized storage mass coupled to the centralized announcement service node and the network of said telephone service provider.

26. A method of providing recorded announcements to devices on a network according to claim 25, comprising the steps of:

identifying a user of said network based on a communication from the user's device on the network; and

retrieving at least one recorded announcement for the user based in part on the identification of said user.

27. A method of providing recorded announcements to devices on a network according to claim 26, comprising the step of:

identifying the user based on Dialed Number Identification Service (DNIS).

28. A method of providing recorded announcements to devices on a network according to claim 26, comprising the step of:

identifying the user based on a code dialed by said user.

29. A method of providing recorded announcements to devices on a network according to claim 26, comprising the step of:

identifying the user based on Automatic Number Identification (ANI).

30. A method of providing recorded announcements to devices on a network according to claim 26, comprising the step of:

coupling a plurality of queries for recorded announcements to said centralized announcement service node via an SS7 network.

31. A method of providing recorded announcements to devices on a network according to claim 26, comprising the steps of:

adding a recorded announcement to said centralized storage mass; and
providing a translation to a switch on the network correlating to the added recorded announcement.

32. A method of providing recorded announcements to devices on a network according to claim 26, comprising the steps of:

prioritizing a plurality of queries for recorded announcements from one or more central offices on the network; and
providing a plurality of recorded announcements to said one or more central offices on the network.

33. A method for providing recorded announcements to users of a telecommunications system, the method comprising:

a step for triggering a request for a recorded announcement by initiating a call on

said system;

a step for generating a query for a recorded announcement, the query based at least in part on the recorded announcement request triggered from said user;

a step for sending the query to one or more data storage schemas via a network, the query corresponding to one or more recorded announcement triggers initiated by the call; and

a step for sending at least one recorded announcement to a user of the system in response to the query.